

Save the Spies

SIR.—The report of Atticus on my proposal for setting up an International Spy Reserve reveals serious weaknesses in his intelligence service.

At present, the details are in the possession of the editor of a Philadelphia magazine. If Atticus had employed a good old-fashioned spy to secure a microfilm record of these papers, instead of relying upon an inaccurate "leak" foisted on some bungling amateur, he would know, not only that I am well aware of the existence of a nudist colony on the island, but that I regard its removal by the French as an essential preliminary to the establishment of the Reserve.

My plan calls for an initial stocking of the island with fifty pairs of international spies carefully selected for their breeding potential. Spies thrive on secrecy and the need for covering up. The presence of a nudist colony would be disastrous. And not only in terms of psychological damage. The thought of the females being tempted out of their traditional black satin into bikinis, or worse, is sickening to contemplate.

Eric Ambler.

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